

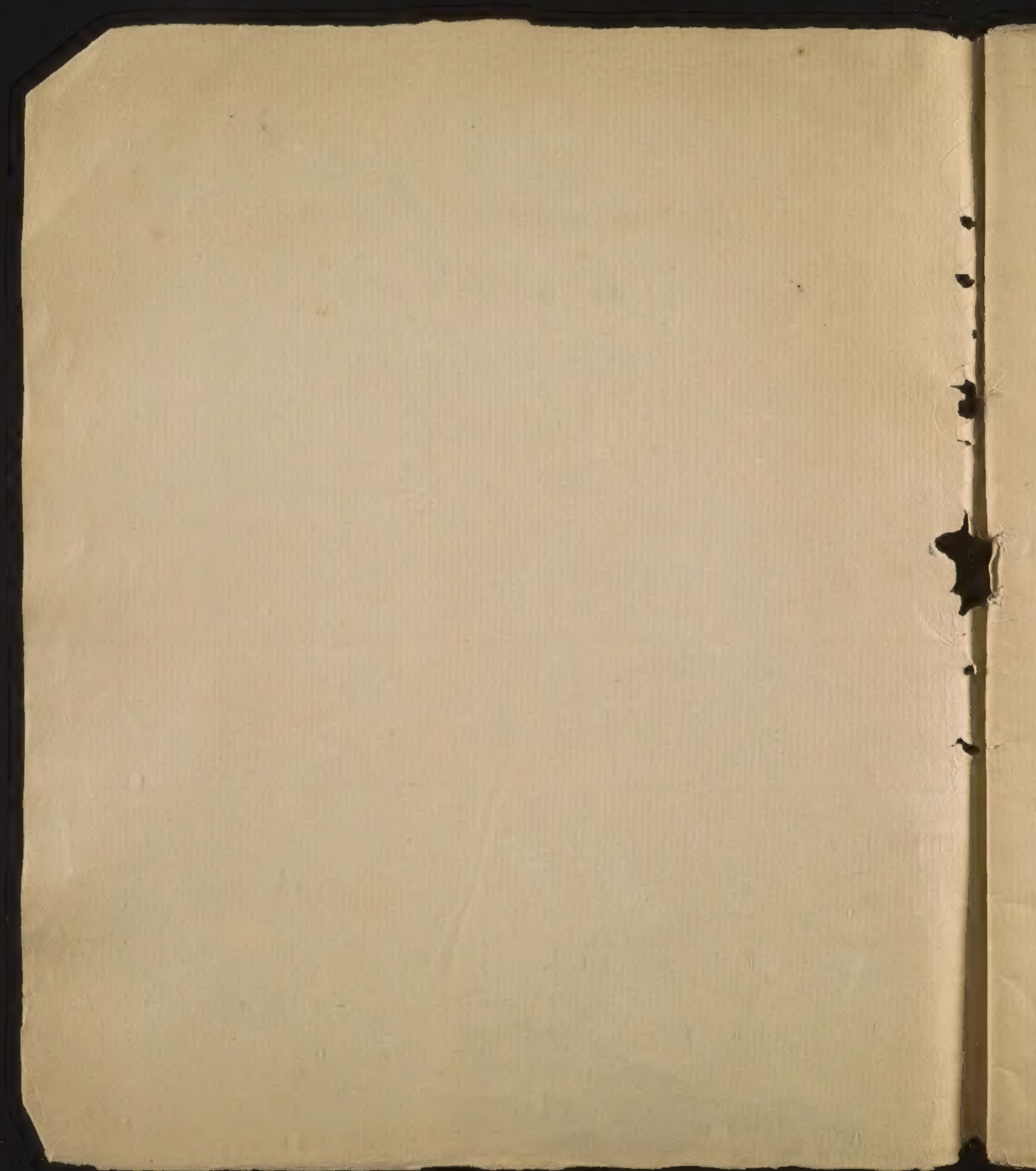
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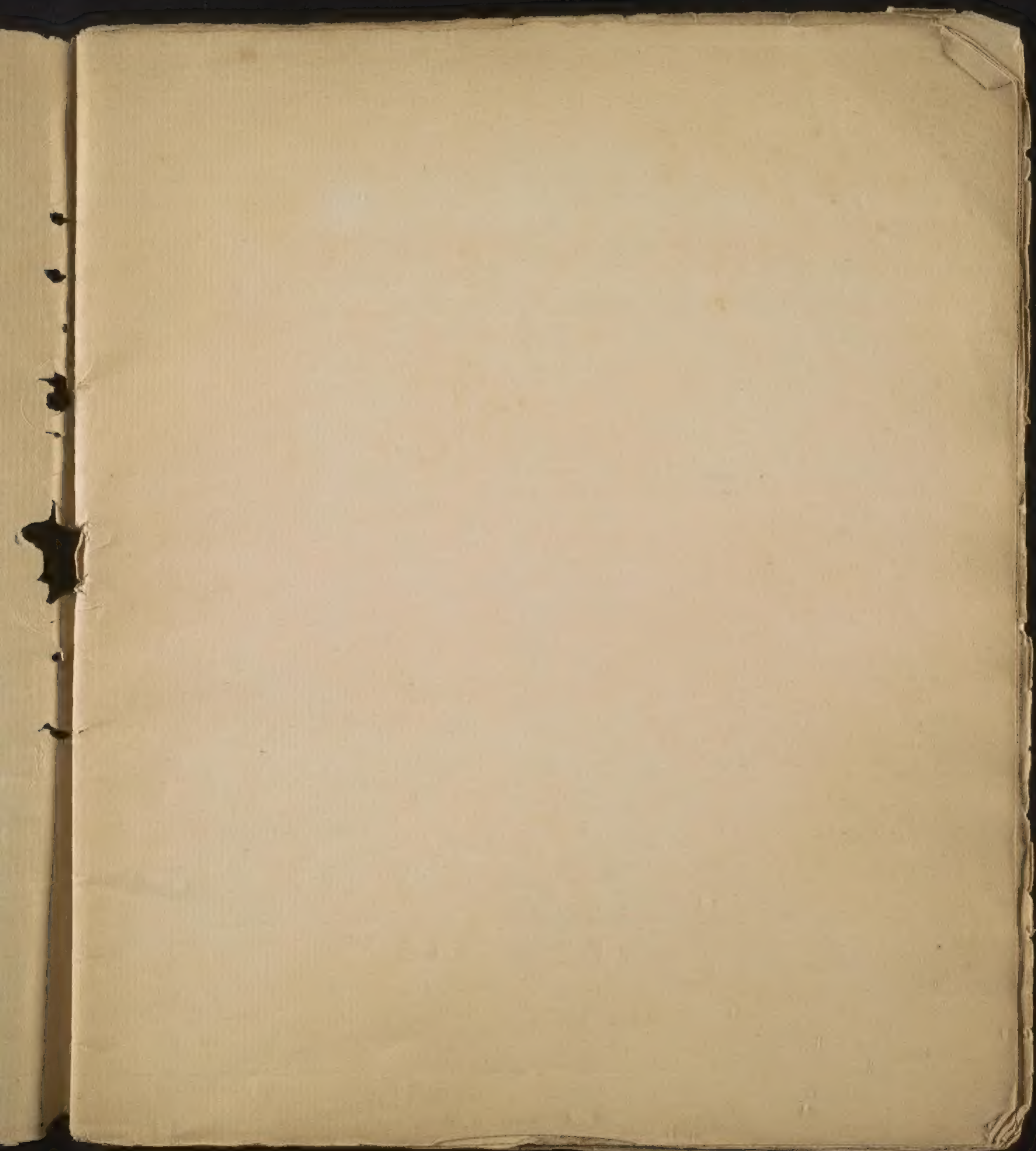
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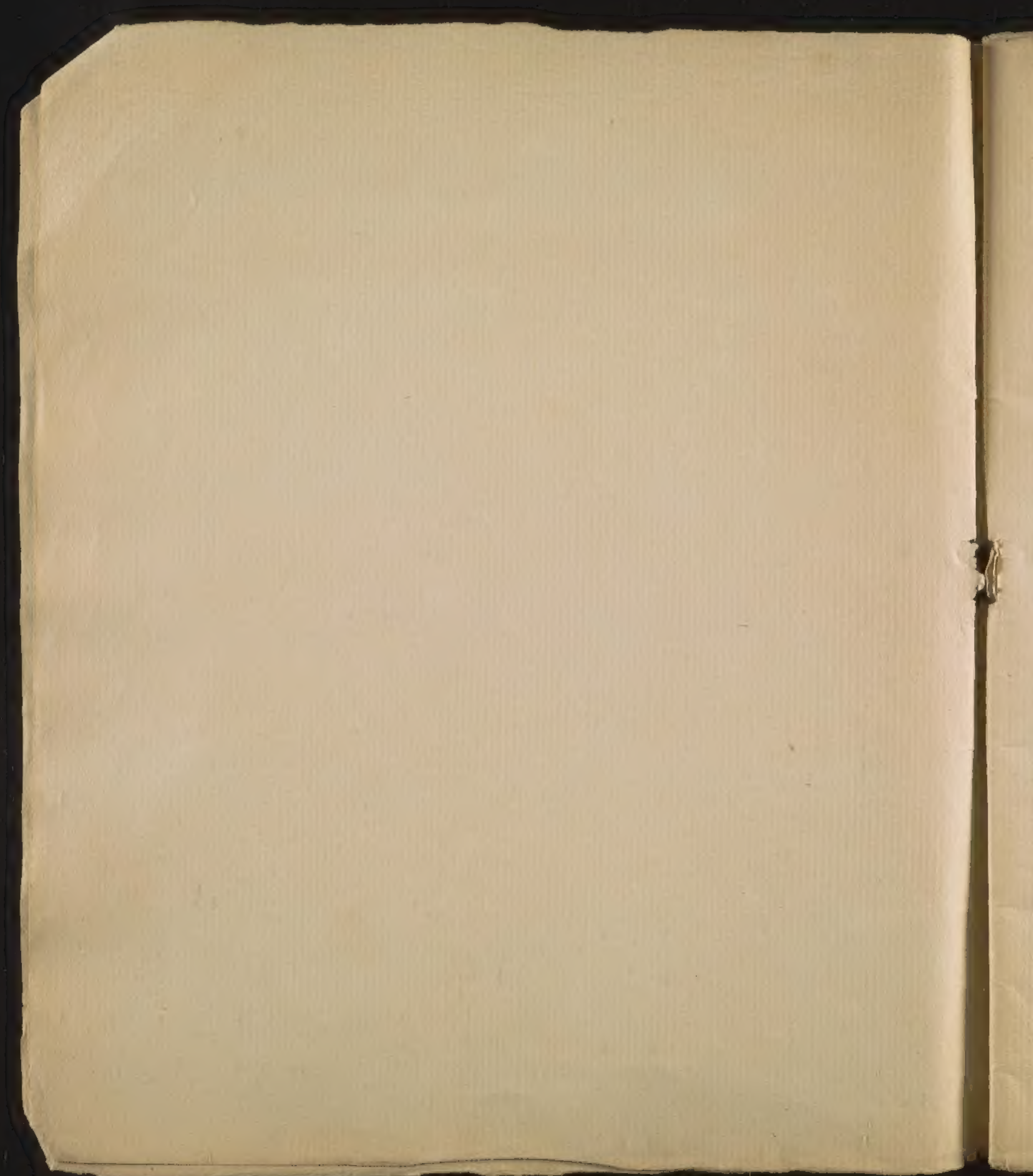
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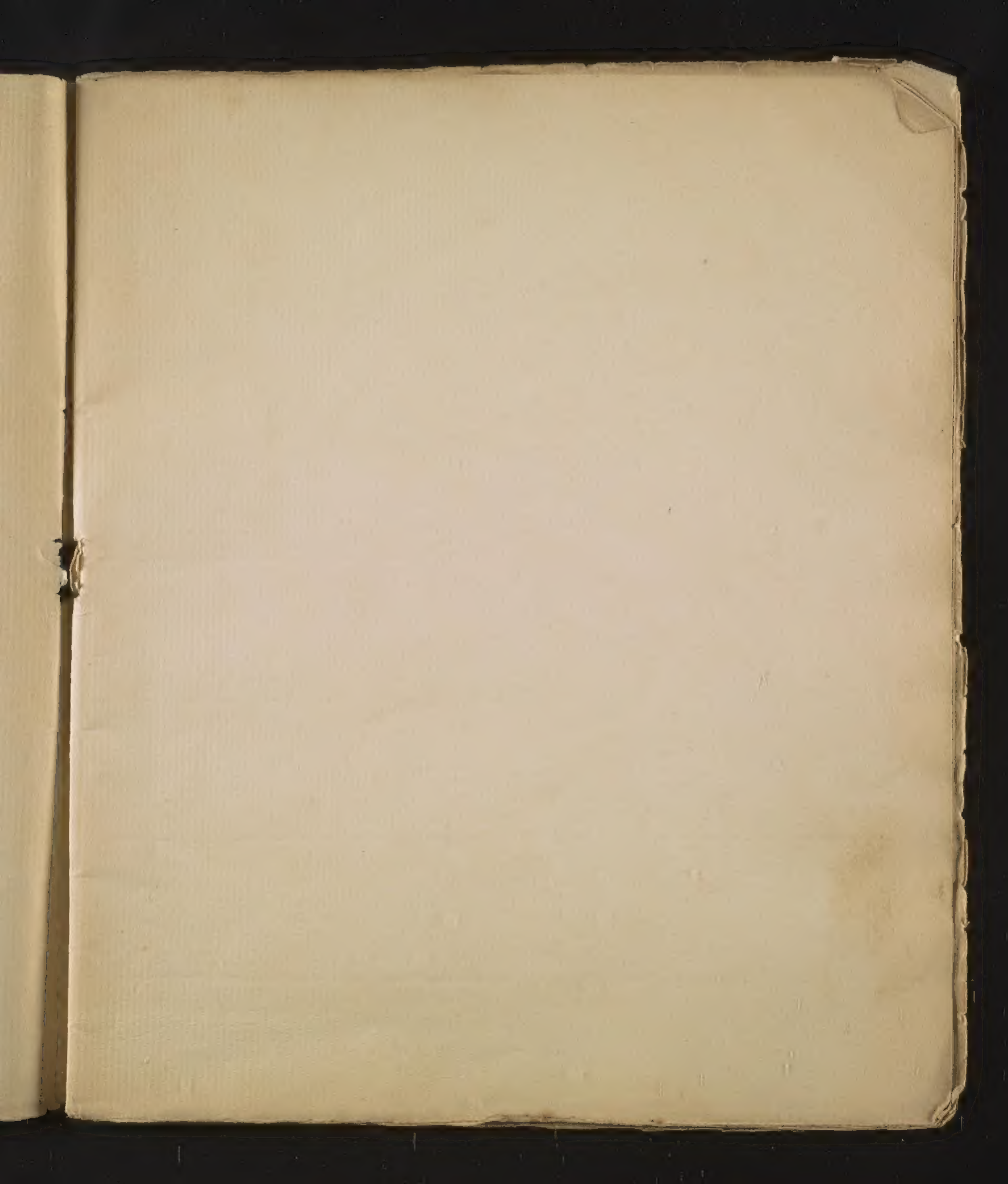
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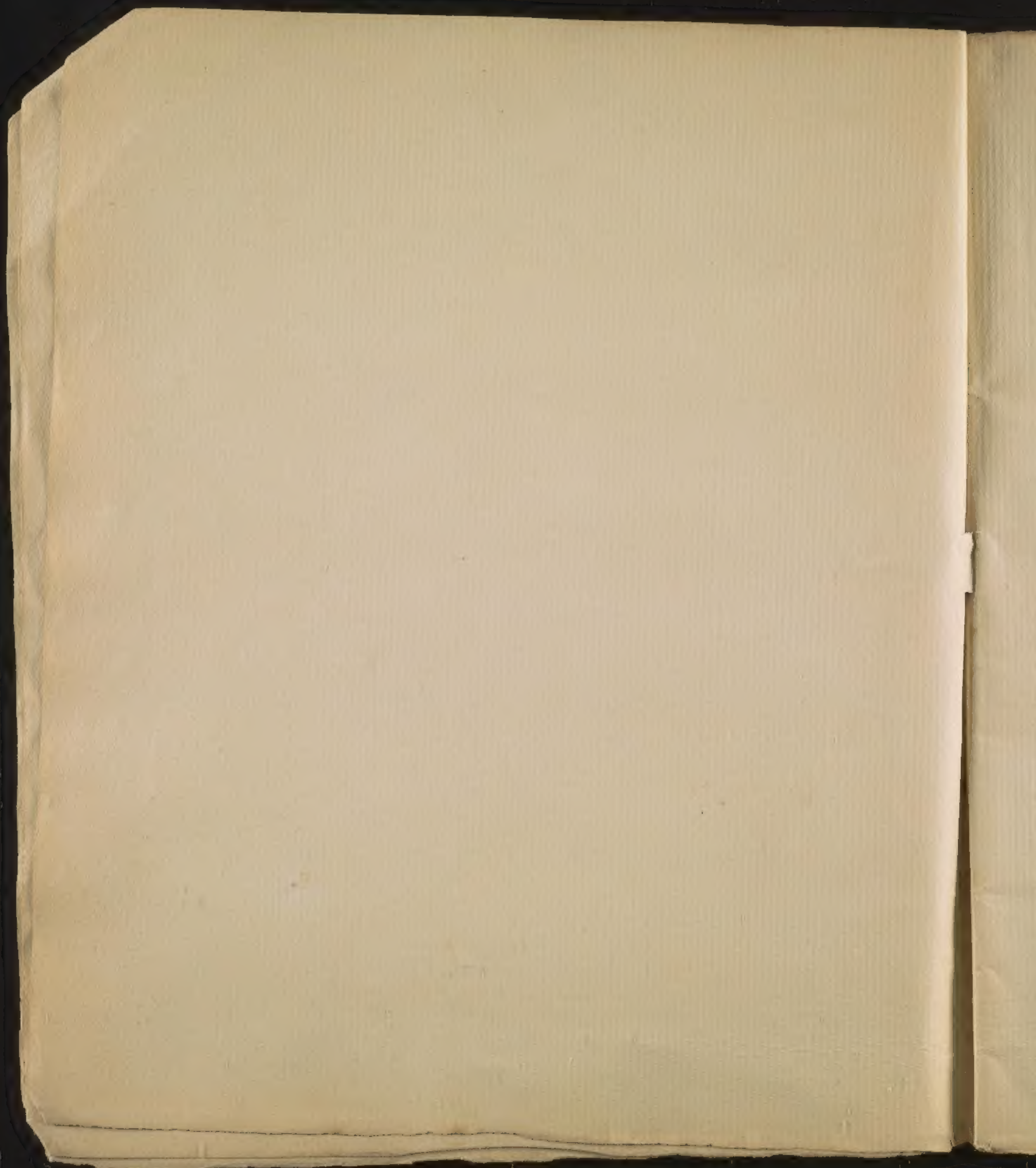
Introductory lecture on the
connection of theory with practice.

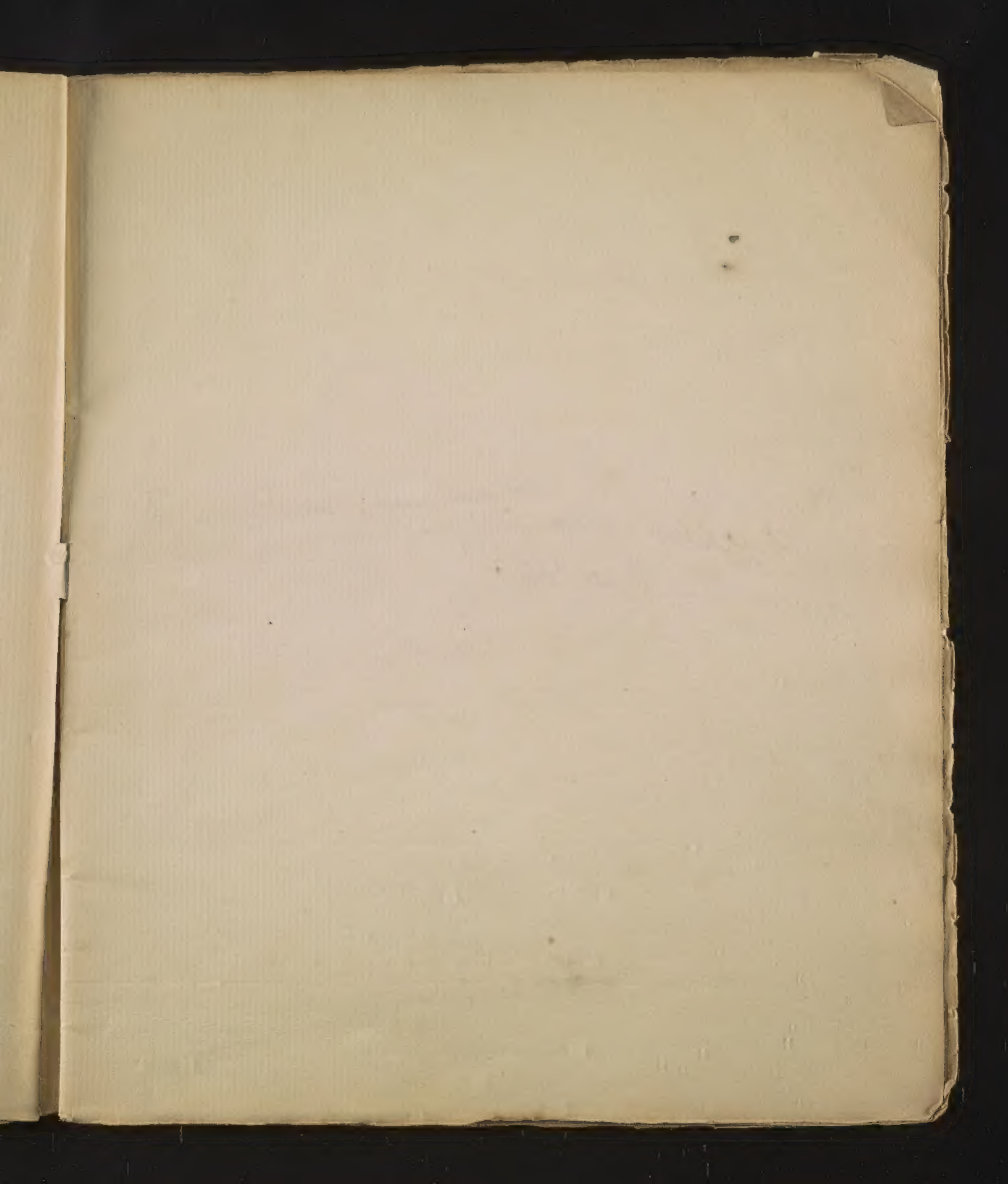












✓ Hygiene considers the means of
preserving health.

Nov^r 1803Nov^r 1806

Gentlemen

~~I said in our introductory lecture,~~
 my business in this University ~~is~~ to teach
 the Institutes of medicine & the practice
 of physic.

The former include Physiology &
~~or the art of preserving health~~
 Pathology & ~~the~~ what are called Therapeutics,
 or the method of curing disease founded
 upon a knowledge of this cause & its
 effects.

As the method of curing disease founded
 upon a knowledge of this cause & its
 effects is explained in the lectures upon
 Pathology, the latter includes the history of the
 signs, & the course of particular diseases.
 Physiology considers the functions
 of the human body in ~~its~~ ^{their} healthy state.

Pathology considers the causes which
 derange those functions, & thereby induce
 diseases. Those causes ~~and~~ include all

V lectures upon each of these branches
of medicine, I shall twice a week deliver ^{from this Chair}
~~lectures~~ remarks upon such cases of disease
as occur in the Penns: Hospital. The
^{Different} subjects of these lectures are divided in
the Univ: of Edin² into three ~~the~~ dis-
tinct professorships. I have preferred
uniting them - 1 because they are con-
nected necessarily, ~~parts~~ and can be
taught & ^{in intelligible} ~~intelligible~~ only by being taught
under the direction of the same princi-
ples & 2 because I wished to do as much

external & internal impressions which
 in a material degree
 act upon the body, and the changes
 induced by them in the structure, & actions
 of the different functions.

Therapeutics ^{considers} ~~unfolds~~ the Remedies
 which cure diseases ~~as~~ as unfolded by
 pathology.

The practice of physic descends to
 the applications of the principles explain-
 -ed in therapeutics, to the cure of
 particular diseases. — Besides ^{giving} ~~define~~ ^V ~~the~~

For a full acc^t of all the subjects
 which are ~~to be~~ included in the above
 division of our course, I ~~have sent to~~ ^{shall} ~~refer you to~~ ^{which will be}
 is contained ~~in a volume of~~ ^{published by}
 shortly ~~with a volume of~~ ^{of} ~~the course~~ ^{bound up with} ~~the~~
 introductory lectures delivered by me in

As possible to lessen the expenses of
a medical education in our University.

3 Permit me ~~gent. to mention~~
this University, ~~some years ago. These lectures~~
~~gent. will I hope be useful to you as~~
~~to your personal.~~ They contain many of
my peculiar opinions ~~in~~ ⁱⁿ ~~of the~~
~~Science~~ of medicine, & they will help
to render many parts of our course
more intelligible to you.

The degree of the ~~these lectures~~ those
introductory lectures ~~in the first of these~~ is to show
the connection between theory & practice
in medicine. After the ~~experience of~~
~~nearly 15 years in teaching this subject,~~
~~and after practice of nearly 40 years,~~
I ~~now~~ have confirmed all that I have
said in ~~favor~~ that lecture ~~now~~ in favor of
the ^{Union} ~~necessity~~ of Observation & reasoning in
medicine in order to constitute a physician
or to improve our Science. I know gent.^l
~~medicine may~~

V The Science of medicine cannot stand
upon any one, nor yet upon any
two of them. But.

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it is fashionable to deny theory in medicine,
and to extol facts, or what is commonly called
experience at its expense. But facts and
experience are ^{as} ~~often~~ ^{useful} & ~~fragmentary~~
delusive without theory; as theory is without
facts. medicine may justly be compared
to a tripod ^{or 3 legged stool}. ~~See~~ The three ^{feet} ~~supporters~~ of
this tripod - are Observation - Experiment,
and reasoning, or theory. ~~in medicine alone~~
~~alone they are unable to support the~~
~~united,~~
they mutually support each other. It is
true, ^{the progress of} ~~our~~ science has been retarded by
~~so~~ many erroneous systems of medicine;
but it is equally true it has been more
retarded and injured by erroneous Observations,
and fallacious experiments; & hence Dr.
Cullen used often to tell his pupils



5 [if the exception be allowed]

there were ten false facts to one false
theory in medicine. ~~The advantages~~^{ch}
~~have resulted from a combination~~ Facts are
the touchstones of theories, as theories are ^{of} facts.
I cannot better illustrate the truth of this
remark than by mentioning the Advantages
which our Science has derived from the
labors of two men whose names are im-
mortal in the history of medicine. I mean
Dr Sydenham, & Mr John Hunter. The
former overthrew the theories of ages by his
~~the facts he brought to light~~ by his faithful
& accurate ^{observations} ~~histories of diseases~~, while the
latter overthrew ^{thousands of} ~~the~~ supposed facts ~~of~~^{by}
~~by~~ his theories, or in ~~his~~ other words by
his discoveries of the laws of the animal
economy, and the operation of medicines

✓ That the late ^{Infidels} ~~philosophers~~ have done
who have attempted to divide morals
from Religion. Theory & practice

Permit me to add

in the cure of diseases. ~~But to go~~ further,
 that those men who attempt to divide theory
 & practice, aim at ^{the same} impossibility! ~~They~~
 are inseparably connected by an immutable
 & eternal law in the human mind. ~~As to~~
 "think is to theorise" ~~as~~ says Dr Darwin,
 and where is the physician or the man
 of science, or even ^{suspect} ~~that can~~ the involuntary operation
 of his mental faculties in thinking? There
 never was a physician who did not secretly
 theorise, or who ever prescribed a medicine
 without a secret indication of cure founded
 upon a theory of some kind. The clamors which
 have been excited against ^{theories are confined} ~~theory~~ - ~~against~~
 are confined directed wholly against such theories
 as are new, ~~for~~ this was remarkably the
 case in Edin² ~~in the~~ when Dr Fullen first



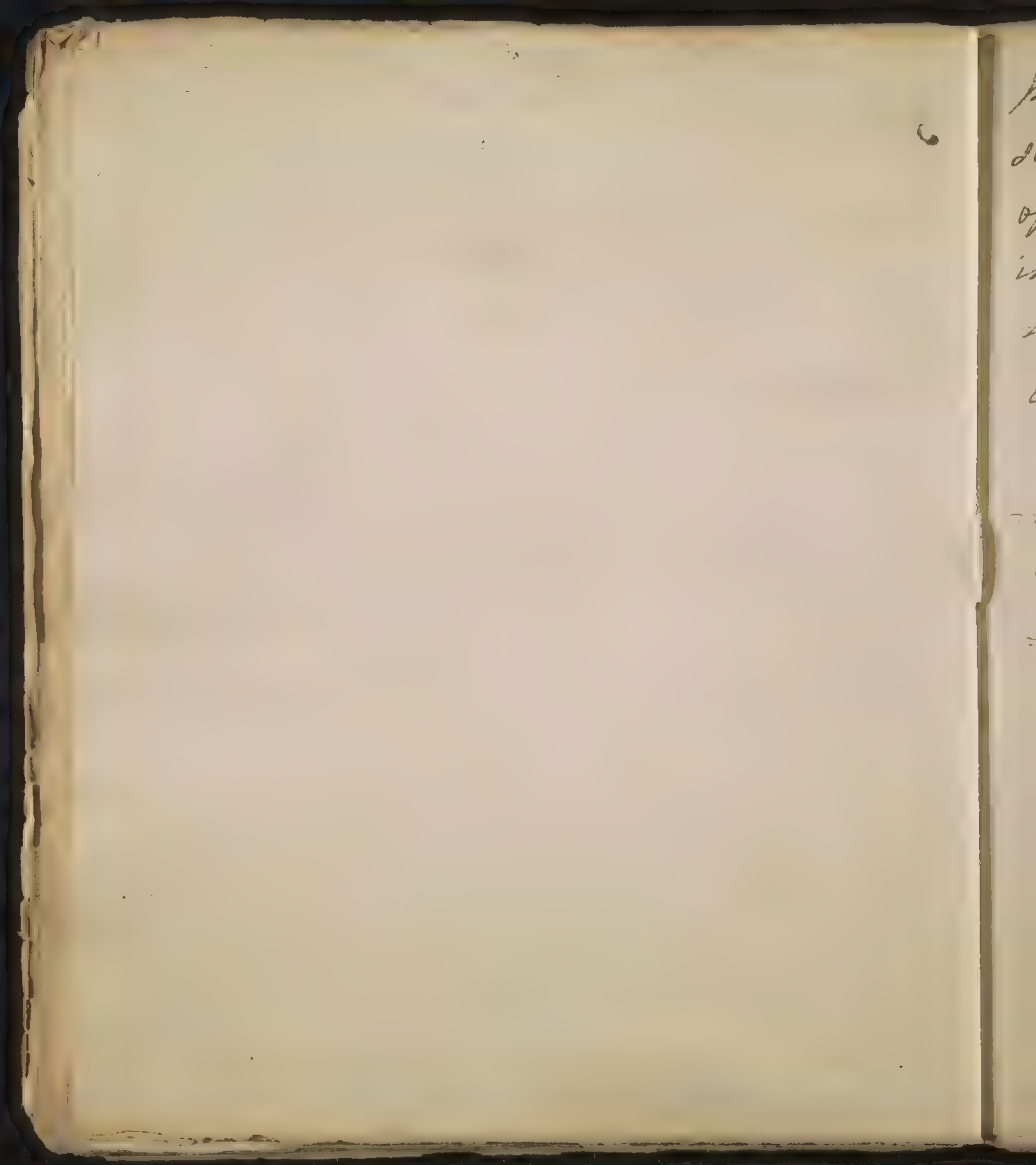
~~might~~ discovered, & placed the proximate
cause of diseases in the solids instead of the
fluids. ^{This his Brethren} ~~his Brethren~~ professors who were
^{devoted to} ~~devoted to~~ the acid - alkaline & muriatic
humors of Dr Boerhaave, complained of his
theorizing, and for a while treated his opinions
as the effusions of a wild & distempered ^{imagination} ~~brain~~.
The Doctor was not insensible of the incon-
-sistency of these charges against him, & dis-
-availing himself of the simplicity of his prin-
-ciples, publicly declared that there was
more theory in one page of Vanswieten's
commentaries upon Dr Boerhaave's aphorisms,
than there was in a dozen of his lectures.
As a proof that the ^{unpopular} ~~theoretical~~ & odious
nature of theory consists only in its novelty,
it will ~~be~~ not be improper to add that the
same physicians who were ^{devoted} ~~swayed~~ ^{Edin^r} ~~swayed~~ ^{at}

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V In thus adopting Dr Cullen's theories, after
treating them with contempt & ridicule, they
resembled the Priest who ^{saw} ~~met~~ on his way
to a costly feast a collection of choicest
and being unwilling to spoil his appetite
by eating fruit, — upon them. ~~be~~
the madder.

V I am aware that the detection and
rejection of Dr Cullen theories

50 years ago to Dr Boerhaave's theories of the
morbid Acrimonies, are ^{now} equally stationary
in Dr Cullen's theories of ^{crises} as they were called
and of the efficacy of ~~sedative~~ ^{the heating} ~~medicines~~ ^{powers of}
nature, and of the sedative action of certain
medicines in the Cure of Diseases. ✓
In the last volume published the

In one of Moliere's plays entitled the
"Citizen turned gentleman". An ~~illustrated~~ ^{the}
citizen ~~of Paris is~~ ^{applies to a} professor
of Rhetoric to
be taught the principles of language. The
professor began by dividing all writings
into ^{two kinds, viz} verse & prose, and illustrated each of
them by quotations, - the one from the
poets - the other, from the language of common
conversation. The citizen no sooner heard the latter,
that he discovered he was in possession of
the knowledge ^{of it,} & exulted in the reflection that
he had been in the habit of speaking &
writing prose without knowing it in every



part of his life. The same thing may be
said of those physicians who are the enemies
of theory. They are in the habit of exercising
it without knowing it, in every act of
their minds, when they prescribe for the
cure of diseases. —

~~It is no objection to theory that we cannot explain the causes of all diseases, and
of course that ~~as yet~~ we have a perfect sys-
tem of medicine. The same thing may be
said of all other sciences, ~~and~~ the science
of navigation is ^{so eminently useful} still imperfect, and yet we
do not upon that account reject ~~all~~ the advantages
we derive from the magnet, the quadrant, &
from lunar observations.~~

It has been remarked that ~~that~~ more
as far as it ~~which~~ relates to the cure of diseases
discoveries have been made in medicine within
the last 40 years, than had been made for

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practitioner of medicine
and the ~~physicians~~ who ^{rely} ~~practice~~ upon
them exclusively, without combining them
~~into~~ with theory ~~and~~ in the treatment of diseases,

is more a science than a collection of
bricks in a brickyard, - is a house; ~~the~~
The man who practices medicine, without ~~no~~
other resources than ^{volumes of unconnected} ~~a mass of~~ facts in his ~~brain~~
memory, is no more a physician, than the
day labourer who carries the load, is a master
builder. ~~medicine~~

centuries before. The reason of this is ~~there~~
~~was added to there~~ has been more theory intro-
 - duced into our science within that period
 than formerly, ~~and that too~~ by means
 of which ~~many~~ ^{important} facts have been brought
 to light and such as were ~~admitted~~ ^{detected} to be
 erroneous, have been ~~rejected~~ ^{from the practice of physic.}

~~It is no more a~~ ^{upon} ~~by~~
 Medicine.
 The ~~practice of physic~~ ^{when founded}
^{only upon} ~~only~~ upon facts, is no ^{Medicine}
~~fact, only~~ ^{is not} ~~it~~ ^{it} becomes
 a science only when ~~it is~~ facts are combined
 with theory, & that man ~~who~~ only is a
 physician who prescribes under the influ-
 - ence of facts & theory both. A system
 of religion of some kind has always been
 found necessary to promote good morals, so
 a system of some kind has always been
 found equally necessary to promote regular

✓ In like manner gent. I have resolved
to follow reason, or to theorize in medicine
as long as it shall please God to continue
~~to the last moments of my life~~

to me the exercise of the reasoning
faculties of my mind. I am the more
encouraged to adhere to this resolution

for by ~~say~~ the advantages I have derived
from reasoning in medicine, for if I have
at any time opened the mortality of a
single disease, I declare thus publicly,

& successful practice in medicine.

After these preliminary remarks I readily inform you gent: that duty & inclination alike concur, to determine me to teach the theory as well the practice of medicine from this chair. ~~But~~ also I once attended the only son of a foreign gentleman in this city in a Dropsy of the Brain. I advised the loss of a few ounces of blood in his case. The remedy ^{at first} startled, & distressed the father of the Child, but after a few moments reflection he clasped his hands together, ^{in a pectus bone of Wyle in the French language.} & cried out - "Je sursais la raison - jusque la Dernière moment de la Vie". "I will follow the dictates of reason to the last moment of my life." ~~I have long ago~~ ^{resolutions} ~~am disposed to adopt the same~~ ^{resolution in}



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~~the science of medicine, nor have I had
reason to repent it, for if it has pleased
God in a single instance to have made me
the instrument of lifting the mortality
of any one disease, I ~~was~~ declare this pub-~~

~~licly in honor of the reasoning in medicine~~
I was led to the discovery of the ^{means of curing it,} ~~remedy which~~
^{doing so in} ~~effected~~ not by accident, - not by precedents
derived from books, ^{not by} ~~or former~~ former expe-
rience, but ^{by} ~~and~~ ^{a new} ~~theory~~ reasoning in medicine.

~~It has~~ My lot in our ~~po~~ science has
been a difficult & laborious one. ~~I have studied~~
~~medicine three times - that is - I have~~ I was
educated a Boerhaavian in Edin^g & became a
disciple of D^r Keil. soon after I began to
practice physic, I found ~~that~~ the system
of my illustrious master did not accord

& those circumstances are the most consoling, as
~~that the~~ ^{my} ~~new~~ principles are not only
opposed to a ~~great deal~~ great strength of prejudice but
~~any~~ ^{the} mode of practice - to the feelings ~~of~~ ^{of sick people.}

✓ they not been led by ~~some~~ ^{me} & many others,
~~I~~ ~~not~~ ~~found~~ ~~them~~ ~~to~~ ~~a~~ ~~more~~ ~~more~~
✓ ~~I~~ ~~have~~ ~~one~~ ~~more~~ ~~reason~~ ~~for~~ ~~believing~~
Successful practice in common dis-
eases, & to the cure of some diseases
once deemed incurable, by them. ^{But} I have
two other ~~more~~ ^{other} reasons for believing them to
be true, ^{that is} ~~that is~~ ~~they~~ ~~have~~ ~~generally~~
~~adopted~~ ^{been in the habit} I have ~~seen~~ ^{gradually} for many years past
of receiving letters from the former students of our Univer-
sity from all the different states ^{in the Union,} in which they
have been informed that they ~~had~~ ^{had} found
the new modes of practice I had taught them, as
successful in their hands, as they had been in my
own. & I have those modes of practice have
been adopted ~~as~~ ^{with} ~~success~~ ^{success} by those

with the phenomena of diseases. Actuated by
 an ardent desire to ~~be~~ save the lives of my
 patients, more than any ~~other~~ thing else, I
 soon ventured to depart from the principles
 of my master, & read ^{to} & thought for myself.
~~Since~~ ^{painful} the result of my inquiries is well known
 to you all. For a while I ~~thought~~ ^{was} that
 with doubt of ~~their~~ ^{the} truth, & spoke of them
 with diffidence. Nor should I have presumed
 to ~~have~~ at this day have presumed to have
 acknowledged my ^{belief & confidence} ~~confidence~~ in them had
~~they not been the~~ ^{the} ~~change~~ ^{of practice to} ~~which~~
 they first led me, ~~been~~ ^{been} adopted by those
 gentlemen who for many years pub-
 licly & vigorously opposed them. #

Be not alarmed Gent: at my determi-
 nation to ~~teach~~ ^{blend} the theory of medicine as far
 as I am able, with my lectures upon the

V in number that you will readily re-
tain them. Such of you as have brought
to this University ^{Dr Brown or}
~~with you~~ the theories of Dr Cullen, ~~or Dr Brown,~~
will be great losers by exchanging them for
^{mine} for I will ^{give} you but one where
^{Dr Brown has given you two, & where Dr Cullen has}
^{been} they give you twenty. ~~even of course~~ neither
gent. let your fears be excited, lest I should
not mingle facts with my theories; so far
from it, I will venture to promise you that
I shall deliver at least 1000 facts to one
theory. Indeed my whole course of lectures will
consist chiefly of facts. After this
introduction, I proceed to ~~state~~ ^{take notice} that ^{p. 1 of}
I am not insensible gent. of
the clamors, & flanders that have ^{been} followed
~~my old attempts~~ the principles, & mode of

Practical of Physic. ~~may~~ all the theories I shall
deliver to you will be simple, & easy of apprehen-
sion. ~~is much so that the young~~ They will
~~be~~ moreover be ^{so few in} ~~numerous~~, ~~but~~ shall
they include a large collection of facts. Indeed
I will venture to promise you that I will
deliver ~~some~~ facts in the course of these lectures
to one theory, ~~nor shall~~ ^{will} I deliver a single theory
which ~~shall not~~ be supported by facts.

I have ~~but few~~ ^{no} new Remedies to ~~offer~~ ^{recommend} to you
for the cure of diseases. ~~The changes I have~~
~~my principles will lead to a~~
~~successful~~ ~~shall recommend to you in~~
your practice will ~~contribute~~ ^{founded} more ^{proper} a few
remedies ~~at different~~ ⁱⁿ than in the use of
any new ones.

~~I have carefully avoided~~ ~~was~~ ~~laying~~ ~~claim~~
~~to having taught~~ In thus depending theory
in medicine, & promising to teach it, I beg

practices I have taught in this University.
- But I am not, & shall not be discouraged
by them. ^{as long as} ~~believe~~ ~~but~~ I am able to totter
up these stairs, & to ascend this desk I shall
continue to teach them - because I believe
them to be true, & know them to be useful.
- My lot is in the profession of medicine ~~that~~
~~a man is not~~ I have never yet replied to
a single ~~for~~ attack upon me. I have
hitherto treated the malevolent & the more
insidious private attacks that have been
made ^{my principles & practice} ~~upon~~ with silence, & I know what is
more with forgiveness, - and I shall continue
to do so as long as I live.

gentlemen, you would ^{not suppose that I} ~~not suppose that I~~
lay the least claim to ~~being~~ ^{being} the author
of a new system of medicine. All little have
I aspired to a mitre or a crown as to that
honor in our science. A system of medicine
provides a theory for every disease, & ~~from~~ ^{as}
~~every~~ an explanation of every phenomenon
in the Animal Economy. My principles
had only to ^{an explanation} ~~the theory~~ of a ~~small~~ part
of the diseases of the human body, and a
~~relation~~ of but a few of the laws ^{which} ~~of the~~
govern it. But while I thus limit ^{the} ~~my~~
extent of ~~my~~ ~~but~~ my principles, I do not
hesitate to declare that I believe all the laws
of the Animal Economy, & all the causes of
diseases admit of explanation, and that
~~sooner or later~~ ^{sooner or later} a system will arise from the

the possibility of
V ~~possibility~~ ~~of~~ our arriving at ^{the}
perfection & certainty of medicine is ~~one~~
~~if the~~ ^{only} means to ~~attain~~ attaining
to them. After this general & preliminar remarks, I
I ~~proceed~~ now to make a few remarks
upon the method of ~~acquiring~~ acquiring a
knowledge of the ~~practice~~ practice of physic.
I proceed to take notice,

Successive labors & contributions of different
men, & ~~perhaps of~~ successive generations, ~~from~~
there will be formed a complete system of
medicine. ~~Let us believe this is to day good~~
~~not to the Supreme Being for~~ ^{then} Let the consideration
^{of} the present imperfect & unfinished state of
the fabric of medicine animate you, in your
~~studies~~ to add your labors to those of your pre-
decessors in order to complete it. The United
States have ^{already added many stones} ~~the since~~
~~given a new & strong impulse to~~ ^{to this building}
~~since then of~~ Let it not become weakened
your hands who knows but what Heaven
has destined ^{it to the} ~~the~~ capstone ^{of it} ~~of the building~~
to be placed upon it by some American
physician, - and perhaps by some of
the gentlemen ^{I have now the} ~~whose names are composed of~~
^{honor of} ~~present~~ ^{always recollect that} ~~are~~ addressing. - ~~Let a belief~~

